

Today

No Chloroform for U. S. \$1 a Day, for One Day. If an Angel Came. He'd Pity Princess Chin.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE (Copyright 1921.)

In days before chloroform was discovered they tied a man, held him down, then cut off his legs, if they thought it necessary. All he could do was to look on and yell.

Uncle Sam is in that position today. Two classes of doctors, railroad owners and railroad workers, have made up their minds to remove both of Uncle Sam's legs for a little while, taking away the railroads on which he travels. And all he can do is look on, and feel sorry for himself.

It ought to be possible for a great nation to have more than that to say about its own affairs.

The President, who held conferences all day yesterday, will do all that he can do as an individual to prevent the strike. But all he can do, unfortunately, is coax, which is not usually effective. He can use troops to suppress disorder and compel respect for the mails. But that will not transport freight and population.

The two million railroad workers have a fund of two million dollars ready to carry them through the strike. That will be one dollar a day for each worker, for one day—not a great financial provision.

The railroad owners rely on the financial weakness of the workmen. When they can no longer eat they must work.

The reliance of the workers is on their numbers and physical power, the extent to which they may be able to frighten owners of railroads with danger to property and other dangers.

The public, awaiting an operation that may or may not be performed, squirms and yells. Cities collect fleets of automobiles with which to bring in milk, bread, and coal. Detroit, remembering with relief that every Ford owns one of the United States on which there will be no strike, can at least count on plenty of firewood. Ford's road taps great forests. But you can't eat wood, or build automobiles with it.

If Japanese airships suddenly appeared above our cities, menacing inhabitants, or if long-range guns from ships far out at sea began bombarding our coast towns, we should have to take our medicine and make the best of it.

When the entire nation is menaced within its own borders by a small section of its own population, every manufacturer and business man suddenly told his business may cease, every worker informed that his work and his pay may stop, mothers wondering whether they will be able to get food supplies for their children, it ought to be possible to do something besides sit and wait and hope for the best.

A dispatch of the International News Service quotes W. G. Lee, president of the railroad trainmen, encouragingly:

"I would be glad to attend a conference of union leaders and railroad executives in Washington, if President Harding should see fit to call the leaders of both sides to the Capital."

That message shows the right spirit.

However it is done, this threatening strike should be settled and prevented. The nation can recover from war, from the loss of ten thousand millions lent abroad, the stagnation of foreign trade, with customers all over the world bankrupt.

If we remain united and all the elements of the nation work together, war memories will gradually fade, prosperity will come back greater than ever.

But if one part of the nation begins fighting with another part, if organized labor and organized capital attack the interests of the general welfare, it will be a sad day for all, especially for those responsible for precipitating the trouble.

If an angel from above came down to inspect us, a sad report would be taken back. That angel would find us, without the faintest excuse, preparing to enter a life and death struggle among ourselves, instead of sorting out arbitration and reason.

The angel, looking over the newspapers, which are the more or less distorted mirrors of what we call civilization, would read, "Policeman gets man in duel; next, 'Wealthy broker slashes wife.'" "Star boarder held in slaying."

He would find attention concentrated on "Babe Defies Landis," and learn that the "Babe" is a three-hundred-pound baseball player ignoring certain rules.

Most of the news would fill the imaginary visiting angel with loathing, with contempt for the "low class" news, which deals with crimes of the gutter, and the "high class" news, which

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)

WEATHER

Cloudy tonight with mild temperature. Moderate to fresh south shifting to west winds. Temperature at 8 a. m., 58 degrees.

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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 18, 1921.

WASH. TIMES CALLS THE TIMES

THREE CENTS EVERYWHERE

The Washington Times THE NATIONAL DAILY

FINAL HOME EDITION

CONG. BEN JOHNSON'S OFFICE LOOTED

Labor Board Summons "Big Four" Chiefs

OFFICE AT CAPITOL IS RANSACKED

Cong. Johnson, Active in Bergdoll Probe, Loses Chest of Valued Documents.

A large cedar chest, containing valuable official and private papers, was stolen last night from the office of Congressman Ben Johnson of Kentucky in the House Office Building.

Under the rays of bright electric lights burglars cut a pane of glass in the Congressman's office window, unlatched the lock, entered the room, and carted the box away.

Chief Familiar.

"It was an inside job, directed by an outsider," declared Mr. Johnson, who he was summoned to the office today.

The job was done, according to investigators, by persons familiar with the Congressman's room. Nothing else but the box was touched. A revolver, postage stamps, and other things were in the room at the time. A hasty survey showed that the robbery was made for the purpose of securing the papers in the cedar chest.

Mr. Johnson refused to divulge the contents of the box other than to state that the papers were invaluable to him. It is believed that some of the papers would have extracted certain work which the Congressman has recently been engaged in.

Finger print experts were summoned early this morning and took away with them the window pane, on which were four prints of fingers.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the thieves were after the papers in that box," declared Mr. Johnson. "If the chest had not been locked I believe they would have extracted certain papers which they were sent for and left the others. Many of the letters in the box would be of inestimable value to certain persons."

Sheldon Talbot and J. C. Anderson, employees of Mr. Johnson, were in the office until 10 o'clock last night. The robbery was discovered by Anderson about 7:30 o'clock this morning.

According to the detectives assigned to the case, the robbery was well planned, and it is believed the cedar box is still in the building. Two men are thought to have committed the burglary, one acting as lookout.

Exit by Corridor.

The corridor in front of Mr. Johnson's office opens into a large court, which is flooded with electric lights all night. One of the robbers opened the window, stepped out on a ledge, and then walked stealthily along until he reached the next window.

With the aid of a jimmy, the burglar broke a small portion of the pane. Reaching in with his hand he unlatched a small lock. Still using the jimmy, the burglar forced open the office door. The chest, which was in a corner near the window, was dragged out. Marks on the floor showed where the chest was pulled along. There are no marks in the corridor.

The robbery is thought to have occurred between 10:30 and midnight. Watchmen report that nothing was carried out last night.

B. R. King, of police headquarters, was assigned by Chief of Detectives Grant to aid the Capitol police in their investigation.

This is the third time in seven years that Mr. Johnson's room has been entered. The first time, six years ago, the thieves entered Mr. Johnson's office and set fire to a number of valuable papers. This occurred while he was chairman of the House District Committee. The second time, two years ago, Mr. Johnson's room was ransacked, but nothing of value was taken.

The Congressman is a member of the House Appropriations Committee and conducted the Bergdoll investigation.

D. C. COAL MAN SUED BY SPOUSE

Misconduct Charged by Mrs. L. E. White—Asks Divorce, Alimony and Children.

Lucius E. White, president of the L. E. White Coal Company, 733 Twelfth street northwest, was today named defendant in a suit filed in the District Supreme Court by his wife, Mrs. Edna E. White, for absolute divorce and alimony.

Mrs. White charges misconduct and names a co-respondent.

The plaintiff, represented by Attorney Frank E. Elder, alleges that her husband has on numerous occasions "bestowed his attentions upon numerous women."

Worked in His Office.

Mrs. White declared that prior to the incorporation of the firm of which her husband is president and in which he holds 13 out of 20 shares of the capital stock, estimated at \$20,000, she worked in his office and continued to do so until the business was incorporated.

As a part of her compensation, she says, she was to receive one share of stock valued at \$1,000, the certificate of which was issued in her name, but which he refuses to surrender to her.

The plaintiff also alleges that the defendant has drawn the dividends due on her certificate, refusing to make an account of it to her.

Mrs. White also declares that the stock has greatly increased in value, and that her husband owns property valued at about \$150,000.

While living together October 19, 1919, at their residence at 5632 Conduit road, Mrs. White alleges, her husband persuaded her to enter into an agreement with him purporting to dispose of her interest in his property, which he would subsequently acquire.

Under this agreement he paid her \$250 a month, with which sum she was expected to support herself and their three children.

The wife says she found that the amount is too small and asks for an increase and custody of the children.

AUTO PARKING IN DOWNTOWN AREA NOW PROHIBITED

Drastic Traffic Change Bars District From Seventh to Seventeenth Streets.

Automobile parking in the business section of the city will be practically eliminated by a change in the traffic regulations which was ordered by the Commissioners today.

Under the changed regulations it will be unlawful to stop any automobile or truck in front of a club, theater, bank, or any business building, except to discharge or take on passengers, or to receive or discharge merchandise.

Mexican Recognition Problem for People of America to Solve

(A Message From William Randolph Hearst.)

To the Editor of The Washington Times: EL PASO, Texas, Oct. 18.—President Obregon of Mexico has given an interview to representatives of the press which contains statements sadly discouraging to those who are anxious to see the most cordial relations develop between the United States and Mexico.

President Obregon says that official representatives of Mexico will not be present at the convention of nations to be held at Washington. This is genuinely distressing to Americans who believe in the policy of "America first" and the cultivation of friendly conditions and relations in America first.

There might be representatives of Armenia, Eurania, China, Korea, Siam, the Congo Free State, Liberia or any kind of nation or pseudo nation in distant Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia at the historic assembly in Washington, but there will be no representative of peace and good will from our important immediate American neighbor and sister republic of Mexico.

Why? What is the reason that the Government of the United States of America does not recognize the present stable government of the republic of Mexico? There was ample reason why the United States should not recognize the government of Carranza, which was nothing more than an authorized state of protracted anarchy, but what reason is there why we should not recognize the established and universally supported government of General Obregon which has almost entirely restored law and order and civilized conditions in Mexico, a government which not only maintains the peaceful and ethical conditions of civilized society, but offers the friendship and encouragement to citizens of the United States in Mexico which has so long been denied them?

What is the United States asking of the Mexican government in return for recognition which the Mexican government is unwilling to grant? The principle of our demand should be supremely simple. We should ask nothing of Mexico that we would not freely and fully grant to Mexico if that country made the request of us. And Mexico for its part should withhold no right from our citizens in Mexico which it would not wish withheld from its citizens in the United States.

This is the plain principle of the Golden Rule applied to international relations, and it applies as aptly to politics and diplomacy as it does to religion, morality, business activity and all phases of human society. The situation between the United States and Mexico needs light. It needs the light of publicity. It is time that some of the fine phrases propounded by Mr. Wilson and never practiced by him were actually put into political operation by the present more practical and apparently more genuine American Administration of President Harding. What has become of the plan to abolish secret diplomacy for which as one object our idealistic American youth sacrificed their lives? What has become of the open covenants openly arrived at which was so inspiring a watchword in our self-sacrificing crusade for democracy?

Let us make our negotiations with Mexico a matter of democratic diplomacy. Let us take our citizens whose wisdom we so highly extol and so constantly ignore into the confidence of the Government. Let us make our public policy public. Is our Government negotiating with Mexico for the rights of our whole citizenship or for the special advantages of certain financial interests? Friends of the Administration naturally suppose that the Government is considering only the public interest, but when Lamont, spokesman of the international bankers, rushes into print to say what shall be done in regard to Mexico some citizens feel

(Continued on Page Two.)

CABINET HOPEFUL OVER CONFERENCE ON STRIKE

RAIL HEADS SNUBBED IN MEET CALL

No Invitation Issued to Executives—Harding's "Family" Is Wary of Comment.

By H. K. REYNOLDS, International News Service.

The summoning of the heads of the railway brotherhoods to Chicago for a conference with members of the Railway Labor Board was regarded in Washington today as the first step in "getting together" to avert the threatened nationwide railroad strike.

News that the brotherhood chiefs had been requested to go to Chicago, came to Washington just as the Cabinet was assembling at the White House for its first meeting since the strike began to assume menacing proportions. It was taken as a hopeful sign by members of the Cabinet.

Board Members Due Today.

Judge R. M. Barton and Ben Hooper, the public representatives of the Labor Board, are due to arrive in Chicago today.

While it is not suggested that they bear any "plaid" of settlement, they will arrive in Chicago prepared to present to both the brotherhood chiefs and the executives the views of President Harding and Government officials here, and to impress upon them the Administration's determination to prevent the strike if it is at all possible, or, failing in that, to insure public service if it is called.

The impression prevailed in official circles in Washington at the time the Cabinet went into session that the next twenty-four hours will see important developments in Chicago.

Executives Not Invited.

At the headquarters of the railway executives here today it was stated that so far as is known the executives have not been included in the invitation to the brotherhood chiefs.

It was pointed out, however, that under section 313 of the transportation act, the Railway Labor Board is empowered to invite either group independent of the other.

William H. Johnston, president of the International Association of Machinists, has left for Chicago to confer with other labor leaders relative to the plans of the shopcraft workers for the strike.

Secretary of Labor Davis went to the White House this morning for a conference with the President prior to the Cabinet meeting. It is understood that the President desired to talk the strike situation over with the Secretary before laying the whole matter before the Cabinet.

I. C. C. Probe Postponed.

The Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, which was to resume its railroad investigation this afternoon, has postponed its inquiry indefinitely, pending the outcome of the present tense situation.

In the meantime, Senator Cummins, Republican, of Iowa, the committee chairman, whose intimate study and knowledge of transportation problems is expected to prove of valuable assistance to the Government during the next few days, is holding himself in readiness to advise with officials concerning various phases of the strike developments.

Here's The Railroad Situation Boiled Down To Bone

By International News Service.

With leaders of the railway brotherhoods stating "peace with honor will be welcomed," the first important open move by the Federal Government to avert a nationwide railway strike was made today.

The Railway Labor Board, whose authority was assailed by the strike threat, today summoned the heads of the four railway brotherhoods to meet with it at Chicago Thursday afternoon. The invitation was extended after two members of the board had conferred with President Harding and other officials at Washington.

The nature of the proposals to be submitted to the brotherhood chiefs was unknown to Warren S. Stone, chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, who accepted the invitation with alacrity.

Meanwhile, the strike situation, involving upward of 2,000,000 railway workers, and affecting every important railway in the country, was considered by President Harding and his Cabinet.

It was reported from Washington that the President will be urged to name a board of conciliation to deal with the proposed walkout, scheduled to start October 30. Secretary of Labor Davis, who has canvassed the dispute thoroughly with the Railway Labor Board, explained the situation to the Cabinet. As a last resort, it was believed President Harding himself would step in to avert a national strike.

A third group of important railways, upon which the walkout will become effective November 3, was published, but President Stone and other union leaders refused to deny or affirm the correctness of the list.

Whether the Pennsylvania system was included in the fourth group, comprising "all other railways," likewise remained a mystery.

LLOYD GEORGE SPONSORED V. C. FOR UNKNOWN YANK

LONDON, Oct. 18.—The Earl of Cavan, who is expected to accompany the British delegation to the Washington conference as an expert on military matters, has been selected to confer the Victoria Cross upon the grave of America's "unknown soldier" in Arlington Cemetery, the Daily Sketch announced today.

It is understood Premier Lloyd George ruled that the Victoria Cross should be conferred as a "political necessity." There had been strong opposition to the opponents including King George. This opposition was based upon the contention that it was legally and traditionally impossible to confer Britain's highest award upon a foreign soldier who had not even fought in the British army. The premier insisted and finally overcame the opposition.

Foreign office experts were then called upon to devise means of making the award "legal."

KLEAGLE CLARKE INSISTS RESIGNATION BE ACCEPTED

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 18.—In the first public utterance he has made since his demand on Imperial Wizard Stone that his resignation be accepted, Edward Young Clarke, Imperial Kleagle of the Knights of Ku Klux Klan, today again insisted that his resignation be accepted, and asserted his health was the reason for the demand.

He issued a long statement setting forth the reasons.

THURSDAY FIXED FOR MEETING IN CHICAGO

Federal Body Expected to Propose Basis for Peaceful Settlement.

By W. J. TAM J. HUSKE.

CLEVELAND, Oct. 18.—Heads of the "Big Four" railway brotherhoods, today were summoned to Chicago by the Railway Labor Board to meet with them Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The invitation was made public by Warren S. Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, who said it would be accepted.

Peace Proposal Expected.

The telegram did not indicate what proposals for a peaceful settlement, if any, the Government wage fixing body would lay before the union leaders. It was considered certain, however, the results of the conferences held in Washington between the public group of the Labor Board and the Interstate Commerce Commission would be laid before the leaders as a basis for the compromise of the present tense situation, with the hope that the strike order might be revoked before it becomes effective.

Whether the railway executives also have been called into the conference was not known here, but it was thought probable they would be asked to attend.

The invitation caused a sudden change in the plans of the "Big Four" chiefs. A hurried conference of Stone, W. S. Carter, of the firemen, W. G. Lee, of the trainmen, and representatives of the conductors and railway switchmen was held behind closed doors to discuss the altered situation.

Want "Peace With Honor."

"Peace with honor will be welcomed," Stone declared. "We have not sought a strike, but have sought to avert one, and if the Railway Labor Board, fresh from a conference with the President, has a formula that we can accept we will accept it."

Stone and other union leaders refused to deny or affirm the correctness of a list of railroads included in group three, upon which the strike is to become effective November 3, contained in an International News Service dispatch from Chicago.

Neither would any officer of the unions comment on the inclusion of the Pennsylvania system, called the "arch foe of unionism" in the fourth group, except to say plans had been made carefully and that the manner in which employees of various roads were to be called out was believed to be best calculated to insure the success of the union plans.

Lee Explains Union's Attitude.

William G. Lee, president of the Trainmen's Brotherhood, declared in a formal statement this morning that "the Brotherhood very reluctantly takes the position that it cannot longer agree to give service unless there is assurance that there will be no further wage reductions, nor attempts to eliminate working rules that have been secured through many years of collective bargaining and which represent only fair remuneration for extra service given."

The men have been asked to accept

Next Sunday—Amazing Inside Story of French Military Plot Against Silesia, by Scotland Yard Investigator